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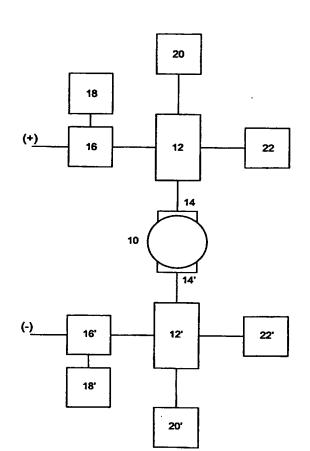
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(54) Title: DIRECT CURRENT MOTOR CONTROL CIRCUIT



(57) Abstract: A motor control circuit for a direct current electric motor has a pair of direct current inputs supplied respectively from negative and positive current sources. The direction of travel of the rotor of the motor (10) is determined by the polarity of the current supplied to it. A new motor control circuit comprises a pair of substantially identical unipolar control circuits. Each of the unipolar control circuits being connected between a respective current source and a current input to the motor wherein a respective unipolar control circuit is adapted to operate said motor in one of said two directions. Each of the unipolar control circuits comprises a solid state switch (12) located between a motor current input and the source of direct current. The degree to which said solid state switch allows current to flow to the motor is controlled by an input bias signal to the switch. Current limiting for adjusting the input bias signal according to the current flowing through said motor is provided in one way of controlling the motor movement. The switch adjusts the input bias to the solid state switch such that less current flows through the motor when a predetermined period of current limiting has occurred. Also a current detection can be used to detect the magnitude of current being drawn through the motor and if the magnitude exceeds a predetermined level for a predetermined time, the input bias signal to the switch can be reduced.

